b.) Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A water-metachromatic cloth sheet which comprises a cloth and a water-impermeable sheet on a back of said cloth, said cloth bearing on a front thereof a porous layer~~, said porous layer~~ comprising a binder resin having fine-particle silicic acid fixed in a dispersed state therein, said water-metachromic cloth sheet exhibiting different transparency between a water-absorbed state and a water-unabsorbed state,

wherein said cloth has a weight per unit area of 30 g/m^2 to 1,000 g/m^2, the amount of said fine-particle silicic acid in said porous layer is 1 g/m^2 to 30 g/m^2, and the amount of said fine-particle silicic acid per 1 part by weight of the binder is 0.5 to 2 parts by weight.

2. (Previously Amended) The water-metachromatic cloth sheet according to claim 1, wherein said fine-particle silicic acid has a two-dimensional structure produced by a wet process and a particle diameter of 0.03 μm to 10 μm, and said binder resin is a polyurethane resin.

3. (Currently Amended) The water-metachromatic cloth sheet according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a colored layer ~~is further provided as a lower layer or an upper layer of, or in the vicinity of, said porous layer~~.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) The water-metachromatic cloth sheet according to claim 4, wherein said water-impermeable sheet material is a soft thermoplastic sheet or thermoplastic elastomer having ~~sheet with~~ a thickness of from 1 μM to 3 mm~~, made of a material selected from a soft thermoplastic resin and a thermoplastic elastomer~~.

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6. (Previously Amended) The water-metachromatic cloth sheet according to claim 4 , wherein said cloth is a quadrilateral cut sheet having a side of 50 cm or longer.

7. (Previously Amended) A toy set comprising the water-metachromatic cloth sheet according to claim 1, and means for providing water thereto.

8. (Currently Amended) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 7, wherein said water-providing means is ~~selected from any of~~ a stamp ~~type comprising a synthetic resin porous member having open cells~~ or a ~~fibrous worked member and a~~ writing instrument ~~type~~ having a pen point, said stamp or pen point comprising ~~the~~ a synthetic resin porous member or fibrous worked member [used as a pen point material].

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9. (Previously Amended) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 8, wherein said means for providing water is said writing instrument, which comprises:

a hollow main body;

a pen point member formed of a synthetic resin porous member or fibrous worked member and fitted to a front end of the main body such that the front end of said pen point projects to the exterior from the main body and extends inwardly into the hollow interior of the main body;

a water absorber held in the hollow interior of said main body, said water absorber being formed of a fiber bunch which is in contact with the rear end of said pen point member to provide water thereto; and

means for communicating air between said hollow interior of said main body and the exterior of the same.

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10. (Currently Amended) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 8, wherein said means for providing water is said writing instrument, which comprises:

a cylindrical container capable of holding water therein, the container being formed with an opening at a tip end thereof to communicate the interior of the container with the exterior thereof;

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a pen point member formed of a fiber bunch and having a pen point at a tip end thereof and a rod-like body;

a hollow cylindrical holder which directly holds said pen point member ~~and is detachably fitted in said opening of said container so that a rear~~, said holder being formed at a tip end thereof with an opening through which the tip end of said pen point member is ~~exposed to the interior~~ projected outwardly and at a rear end with a communication hole;

a gap provided between an inner peripheral surface of said cylindrical

holder and an outer peripheral surface of the rod-like body of said pen point member for generating a capillary force therebetween; and

connecting means for hermetically and firmly connecting a tip end portion of said container~~; when said holder is fitted in said opening, said container is closed by~~ and a rear end portion of said holder so that ~~water is supplied~~ the holder is detachably retained by said container through said opening;

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whereby, when said holder is retained to said container by said connecting means, said pen point member, said holder and said container integrally form said writing instrument, and water in the container is supplied through said communication hole of the rear end of said holder to said pen point member~~;~~, and

when said holder is detached ~~therefrom~~ from said container, said opening of said container is usable to supply water therethrough into the container.

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11. (Previously Amended) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 10, wherein a gap is formed between said pen point member and said holder so that, when said holder is fitted in said opening of said container, water is held in said gap by capillary force.

12. (Currently Amended) An ~~writing~~ instrument for ~~a water-metachromatic member which is capable of rendering different transparency between a water absorbed state and a water unabsorbed state and which comprises a support layer and a porous layer formed thereon, said porous layer comprising a binder resin and a fine-particle silicic acid fixed in a dispersed state in said binder resin.~~

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~~said~~ writing ~~instrument~~ with water, comprising a hollow elongated main body, a pen point member formed of a synthetic resin porous member or fibrous worked member ~~and so~~ fitted to a front end of the main body such that the front end of said pen point member projects to the exterior from the main body and a rear end of said pen point member extends inwardly into the hollow interior of the main body;

a water absorber held in the hollow interior of said main body, said water absorber being formed of a fiber bunch ~~which is~~ of a synthetic resin porous member or fibrous worked member, wherein a capillary force of the water absorber is less than that of said pen point member, said water absorber being in contact with the rear end of the pen point member to provide water thereto; and

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~~means for~~ a communication hole formed through a rear end portion of said main body at a position rearward of a rear end of the water absorber, said communication hole communicating air between said hollow interior of said main body and the exterior of the same when said writing instrument is used for writing, and said communication hole being capable of refilling water to the hollow interior of said main body when water is supplied from the rear end of said main body, whereby

when the rear end of said main body is immersed in water with the tip end thereof elevated in air, water is supplied through said communication hole to said water absorber by capillary force, and when the tip end of said main body is immersed in water with the rear end thereof elevated in air, water is supplied through said pen point member to said water absorber by capillary force.

13. (Currently Amended) The writing instrument ~~for water-metachromatic members~~ according to claim 12, wherein said pen point internally supplies said water absorber ~~is so constructed as to be internally suppliable~~ with water by absorption ~~from the pen point~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The writing instrument ~~for water-metachromatic members~~ according to claim 12, wherein said water absorber is ~~so constructed as to be~~ internally ~~suppliable~~ supplied with water by absorption through the communicating hole at the rear of said main body.

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15. (Currently Amended) The writing instrument ~~for water-metachromatic members~~ according to claim 12, wherein said communicating hole ~~at the rear of the main body is made~~ opens externally ~~outside at a position~~ rearward ~~to the rear end~~ of said water absorber.

16. (Currently Amended) The writing instrument ~~for water-metachromatic members~~ according to claim 12, ~~wherein~~ comprising a communicating hole through which the front end of said water absorber communicates with the outside ~~is provided~~ at the front portion of said main body.

17. (Currently Amended) The writing instrument ~~for water-metachromatic members~~ according to claim 12 , wherein said pen point and said water absorber each comprises a fibrous worked member or a synthetic resin porous member, and said pen point has a capillary force set greater than the capillary force of said water absorber.

18. (Currently Amended) The writing instrument ~~for water-metachromatic members~~ according to claim 12, ~~wherein~~ comprising a tail stopper ~~is~~ fixed to the rear-end opening of said main body, ~~and~~ said communicating hole [is] being provided in the tail stopper.

19. (Previously added) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 9, wherein said air communicating means comprises a hole formed through said main body.

20. (Currently Amended) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 19, ~~wherein said~~ comprising a further communication hole is formed through the ~~rear~~ tip end portion of said main body at a position forward of the tip end of said water absorber.

21. (New) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 10, wherein said connecting means includes thread-engagement portions formed the tip end portion of said container and the rear end portion of said holder.

22. (New) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 10, wherein said holder includes a first hollow cylindrical body whose tip end is formed with said opening and whose rear end portion is formed with a counterpart of said connecting means, and a second hollow cylindrical member bottomed at a rear end thereof, the second hollow cylindrical member being fixed to the inner periphery of said first cylindrical member and formed with said communication hole at the rear end; and

said gap forming means includes ribs formed at the inner periphery of said

second cylindrical member.

23. (New) A writing instrument for a water-metachromatic member which is capable of rendering different transparency between a water absorbed state and a water unabsorbed state and which comprises a support layer and a porous layer formed thereon, said porous layer comprising a binder resin and a fine-particle silicic acid fixed in a dispersed state in said binder resin:

said writing instrument comprising:

a cylindrical container capable of holding water therein, the container being formed with an opening at a tip end thereof to communicate the interior of the container with the exterior thereof;

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a rod-like pen point member formed of a fiber bunch and having a pen point at a tip end thereof and a rod-like body;

a hollow cylindrical holder which directly holds said pen point member, said holder being formed at a tip end thereof with an opening through which the tip end of said pen point member is projected outwardly and at a rear end with a communication hole;

gap forming means being provided between an inner peripheral surface of said cylindrical holder and an outer peripheral surface of the rod-like body of said pen point member to form a gap for generating a capillary force therebetween;

means for hermetically and firmly connecting a tip end portion of said container and a rear end portion of said holder so that the holder is detachably held to said container through said opening;

whereby, when said holder is held to said container through said connecting means, said pen point member, said holder and said container constitute, as one body, said writing instrument and water in the container is supplied through said communication hole of the rear end of said holder to said pen point member, and when said holder is detached from said container, said opening of said container is usable to supply water therethrough into the container.

24. (New) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 23, wherein said connecting means includes thread-engagement portions formed the tip end portion of said container and the rear end portion of said holder.

25. (New) The water-metachromatic toy set according to claim 23, wherein said holder includes a first hollow cylindrical body whose tip end is formed with said opening and whose rear end portion is formed with a counterpart of said connecting means, and a second hollow cylindrical member bottomed at a rear end thereof, the second hollow cylindrical member being fixed to the inner periphery of said first cylindrical member and formed with said communication hole at the rear end; and

said gap forming means includes ribs formed at the inner periphery of said second cylindrical member.